

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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12

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

DPW-01 EUR-25 IO-12 AID-20 RSR-01 /140 W

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R 160412 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 194

USDEL JEC PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 6395

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT VS

SUBJECT: CEASEFIRE AND POLITICAL SPOT REPORT MR I: QUANG TRI
PROVINCE CHIEF ATTACKS CORRUPTION

FOL TEL SENT SAIGON FROM DANANG APR 14 RPTD FOR YOUR INFO:
QUOTE DANANG 394

1. IN A CONVERSATION WITH THE US ARRO DIRECTOR IN HUE COLONEL HA MAI VIET, QUANG TRI PROVINCE CHIEF, SAID THAT HIS CLOSE FRIEND COLONEL DONG (CHIEF OF THE PACIFICATION AND DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL IN MR I) HAD WARNED HIM THAT VIET' S LIFE MAY BE ENDANGERED BY HIS DETERMINED CAMPAIGN TO WIPE OUT CORRUPTION IN THE ADMINISTRATION. VIET SAID THAT CORRUPTION IS STILL RAMPANT IN THE DAI VIET-DOMINATED QUANG TRI ADMINISTRATION. COLONEL VIET ALSO SAID THAT VERY FEW OF HIS STAFF ARE ABLE AND NONE ARE COMPLETELY TRUST-WORTHY. HE IS NOT SANGUINE ABOUT RECRUITING MORE GOOD PEOPLE BECAUSE QUANG TRI IS REGARDED AS AN UNDESIRABLE POST. IN ADDITION TO OTHER PROBLEMS, VIET CLAIMS TO BE UNPOPULAR BECAUSE HE MAKES HIS STAFF WORK TOO HARD.

2. COLONEL VIET WAS DEPUTY PROVINCE CHIEF OF SECURITY IN BINH DINH UNDER COLONEL CHUC (NOW GENERAL CHUC, IN CHARGE OF ARVN ENGINEERS). COLONEL CHUC ALSO CONDUCTED A VIGOROUS CAMPAIGN AGAINST CORRUPTION AND WAS SUBSEQUENTLY THREATENED TO THE EXTENT OF ONE TIME BEING THE TARGET OF A GRENADE INCIDENT.

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COLONEL VIET DRAWS OBVIOUS PARALLEL BETWEEN HIS EXPERIENCE AND THAT OF COLONEL CHUC.

3. CONGEN COMMENT: THE CONGEN HAS ALSO HEARD THAT AMONG OTHER TACTICS, THE THREATENED QUANG TRI ADMINISTRATORS ARE ALSO TRYING TO TURN THE CORRUPTION CHARGE AROUND BY ACCUSING VIET OF CORRUPTION TO HIGHER OFFICIALS IN SAIGON. THUS AN ENERGETIC CAMPAIGN AGAINST CORRUPTION IN QUANG TRI CAN THREATEN BOTH A MAN'S LIFE AND HIS REPUTATION.

BROWN

BUNKER

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*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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